

Secretary and Director General, the designation of an Acting Assistant Secretary, and the name of a nominee to fill the vacancy; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2904. A communication from the Acting White House Liaison, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of General Counsel, the designation of an Acting General Counsel, and the name of a nominee to fill the vacancy; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2905. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Vermilion Snapper Rebuilding Plan" ((RIN0648-AS19) (I.D. No. 021705A)) received on June 23, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2906. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Allocating Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab Fishery Resources; Final Rule" (RIN0648-AS47) received on June 27, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2907. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Quota Specifications and General Category Effort Controls" ((RIN0648-AT01) (I.D. No. 030405C)) received on June 27, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2908. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Foreign Fishing; Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Biennial Specifications; Pacific Whiting" (RIN0648-AS27) received on June 23, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2909. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Western Pacific Pelagic Fisheries; American Samoa Longline Limited Entry Program" ((RIN0648-AQ92) (I.D. No. 061704A)) received on June 27, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2910. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Trip Limit Reduction for Gulf of Mexico Grouper Fishery" ((RIN0648-AS97) (I.D. No. 053105G)) received on June 23, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2911. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Closure of the 2005

Deep-Water Grouper Commercial Fishery" (I.D. No. 060705B) received on June 27, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2912. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Adjustment of Retention Limits" (I.D. No. 052405D) received on June 27, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2913. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule, Correcting Amendment to the Regulations Governing the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Fisheries" (RIN0648-AS47) received on June 27, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2914. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation transmitting, the report of a proposed bill entitled "The St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Enhancement Act" received on June 28, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2915. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tariff of Tolls" (RIN2135-AA21) received on June 27, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2916. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rule Concerning Disclosures Regarding Energy Consumption and Water Use of Certain Home Appliances and Other Products Required Under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act ('APPLIANCE LABELING RULE') (Energy Cost and Water Heater Ranges-2005)" (RIN3084-AA74) received on June 28, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2917. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the discontinuation of service in the acting role of Administrator received on June 23, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2918. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy and a nomination for the new position of Administrator; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2919. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a change in previously submitted reported information relative to a vacancy in the position of Director, received on June 23, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 18. A joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 (Rept. No. 109-101).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CORZINE:

S. 1381. A bill to require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to consider certain criteria in relicensing nuclear facilities, and to provide for an independent assessment of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station by the National Academy of Sciences before any relicensing of that facility; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 1382. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to accept the conveyance of certain land, to be held in trust for the benefit of the Puyallup Indian tribe; read the first time.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself and Mr. LUGAR):

S. 1383. A bill to seek urgent and essential institutional reform at the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1384. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a demonstration program to support college and university communities that wish to expand their book store services and saving for students through the creation of course material rental programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 1385. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure fair treatment and due process protections under the temporary assistance to needy families program, to facilitate enhanced data collection and reporting requirements under that program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BOND (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 196. A resolution welcoming the Prime Minister of Singapore on the occasion of his visit to the United States, expressing gratitude to the Government of Singapore for its strong cooperation with the United States in the campaign against terrorism, and reaffirming the commitment of the United States to the continued expansion of friendship and cooperation between the United States and Singapore; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 146

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 146, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 151

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 151, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require an annual plan on outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 313

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 313, a bill to improve authorities to address urgent nonproliferation crises and United States nonproliferation operations.

S. 350

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 350, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in developing countries, and for other purposes.

S. 375

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 375, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for an influenza vaccine awareness campaign, ensure a sufficient influenza vaccine supply, and prepare for an influenza pandemic or epidemic, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage vaccine production capacity, and for other purposes.

S. 392

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 392, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress, collectively, to the Tuskegee Airmen in recognition of their unique military record, which inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces.

S. 484

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 484, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 627

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 627, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit, to increase the rates of the alternative incremental credit, and to provide an alternative simplified credit for qualified research expenses.

S. 629

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) and the Senator from

Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 629, a bill to amend chapter 97 of title 18, United States Code, relating to protecting against attacks on railroads and other mass transportation systems.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the benefits under the medicare program for beneficiaries with kidney disease, and for other purposes.

S. 647

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 647, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize physical therapists to evaluate and treat medicare beneficiaries without a requirement for a physician referral, and for other purposes.

S. 658

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 658, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit human cloning.

S. 666

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 666, a bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products.

S. 770

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 770, a bill to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to reauthorize and improve that Act.

S. 772

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 772, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand workplace health incentives by equalizing the tax consequences of employee athletic facility use.

S. 843

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 843, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to combat autism through research, screening, intervention and education.

S. 1014

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1014, a bill to provide additional relief for small business owners ordered to active duty as members of reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1035

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1035, a bill to authorize the presentation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during foreign conflicts in which the United States was involved during the 20th century in recognition of the service of those Native Americans to the United States.

S. 1047

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1047, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of each of the Nation's past Presidents and their spouses, respectively to improve circulation of the \$1 coin, to create a new bullion coin, and for other purposes.

S. 1060

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1060, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for the purchase of hearing aids.

S. 1062

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1062, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 1076

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1076, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the excise tax and income tax credits for the production of biodiesel.

S. 1110

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1110, a bill to amend the Federal Hazardous Substances Act to require engine coolant and antifreeze to contain a bittering agent in order to render the coolant or antifreeze unpalatable.

S. 1112

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1112, a bill to make permanent the enhanced educational savings provisions for qualified tuition programs enacted as part of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1197, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

S. 1224

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1224, a bill to protect the oceans, and for other purposes.

S. 1239

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1239, a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to permit the Indian Health Service, an Indian tribe, a tribal organization, or an urban Indian organization to pay the monthly part D premium of eligible medicare beneficiaries.

S. 1265

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1265, a bill to make grants and loans available to States and other organizations to strengthen the economy, public health, and environment of the United States by reducing emissions from diesel engines.

S. 1287

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1287, a bill to amend the definition of independent student for purposes of the need analysis in the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include older adopted students.

S. 1313

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1313, a bill to protect homes, small businesses, and other private property rights, by limiting the power of eminent domain.

S. 1320

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1320, a bill to provide multilateral debt cancellation for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries, and for other purposes.

S. 1343

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1343, a bill to support the establishment or expansion and operation of programs using a network of public and private community entities to provide mentoring for children in foster care.

S. 1366

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1366, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts for charitable purposes.

S. 1374

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1374, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for a border preparedness pilot program on Indian land.

S.J. RES. 19

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 19, a joint resolution calling upon the President to issue a proclamation recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 1106

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1106 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1112

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1112 proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1113

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1113 proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1129

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1129 proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1129 proposed to H.R. 2360, *supra*.

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1129 proposed to H.R. 2360, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1129 proposed to H.R. 2360, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1129 proposed to H.R. 2360, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 1142

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator

from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1142 proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1145

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1145 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1146

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1146 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1156

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1156 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1158

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1158 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1159

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1159 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1160

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1160 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1161

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1161 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending

September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1162

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1162 proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1162 proposed to H.R. 2360, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 1200

At the request of Mr. BYRD, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1200 proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. KOHL, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1200 proposed to H.R. 2360, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 1202

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1202 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1205

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1205 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1205 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 1206

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1206 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1211

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1211 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of

Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1215

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1215 proposed to H.R. 2360, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. CORZINE:

S. 1381. A bill to require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to consider certain criteria in relicensing nuclear facilities, and to provide for an independent assessment of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station by the National Academy of Sciences before any relicensing of that facility; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to help ensure the safety of the Nation's oldest nuclear power plants before they receive a renewed license to operate.

The Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station in Lacey, NJ, has operated for 35 years and is the oldest nuclear facility in the country. It provides approximately ten percent of New Jersey's electricity, powering 600,000 homes. Oyster Creek also provides high paying jobs for 450 New Jerseyans. While the plant is an important source of energy and jobs for New Jerseyans, serious environmental, health, and safety concerns must be taken into account before the plant is relicensed. Three and a half million Americans live within a fifty-mile radius of this plant. Congress must recognize that it is imperative that the safety, performance and reliability of this plant be assessed by an independent entity before it is relicensed.

I have been very clear about my support for an independent review of Oyster Creek's safety and security as part of the relicensure process. Such an assessment would have to go beyond what is currently studied by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) when it reviews a license renewal. Unfortunately, when the NRC decides whether to renew a plant's license, it does not subject that application to the same thorough analysis that would be applied to a new power plant's application.

In particular, a plant's emergency plan is not evaluated by the NRC when it considers a license renewal. This is surely unacceptable.

The legislation I am introducing would require the NRC to withhold relicensing of the Oyster Creek Station until the National Academy of Sciences provides an independent assessment of safety performance, along with recommendations for relicensing and relicensing conditions. The assess-

ment must identify health risks, vulnerability to terrorist attacks, evacuation plans, population increases, ability to store nuclear waste, safety and security records, and the impact of a nuclear accident. The NRC would not be allowed to grant the license until it gives appropriate consideration to the recommendations in the report. This is important not just for New Jersey as it applies to Oyster Creek, but for all nuclear plants across the country.

In addition, the bill requires NAS to review and recommend what the life expectancy of nuclear plants should be that are designed like Oyster Creek.

Most public officials do not have the training or knowledge base needed to make an independent assessment regarding the safety and security of a nuclear power plant. This is why it is so critical that policymakers solicit the independent and unbiased opinion of experts who are able to thoroughly assess whether the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant would be able to operate without fail throughout the duration of a new license.

This Nation needs a plan for a sound energy future. Such a plan must address the increasing role for clean, renewable energy. The plan, however, must ensure that nuclear power plants such as Oyster Creek operate safely and only as long as they are needed.

If New Jersey's energy future is left up to chance, it could leave my State more reliant on coal-fired energy imported from other States over a regional grid that is unable to handle bulk power transfers of such a magnitude. The obvious end result of such reliance on distantly generated and transported energy is more air pollution and more blackouts.

Considering that New Jersey already suffers from the health effects of out-of-State air pollution and is still smarting from the 2003 blackout, we should know better than to let this happen.

A mistake in this matter has devastating potential consequences for New Jersey. An independent assessment of the safety of Oyster Creek is a significant step to ensure the safety of the 3.5 million residents who live in the vicinity of the plant. This additional layer of safety will help ensure that if Oyster Creek is relicensed, it will have passed a stringent, independent assessment of its safety. New Jersey should not expect anything less when it comes to the safety of its citizens.

I urge my colleagues to support this crucial piece of legislation.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1381

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station Relicensing Act of 2005".